WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An elevator installation having a car and a counterweight connected by a drive means and movable in a shaft comprising:

a pair of car guides adapted to be mounted in the shaft;

a pair of counterweight guides adapted to be mounted in the shaft;

a crossbeam attached to said counterweight guides and to at least one of said car guides; and

a drive motor mounted on said crossbeam and coupled to a pair of drive pulleys adapted for engaging the drive means to move the car and the counterweight in the shaft.

2. The elevator installation according to claim 1 wherein said drive pulleys are arranged on opposite sides of an imaginary line horizontal connector of said car guides.

3. The elevator installation according to claim 1 wherein said drive pulleys are operatively connected by a shaft with said drive motor and a brake.

4. The elevator installation according to claim 3 wherein said drive pulleys are arranged between said drive motor and said brake on said shaft.

5. The elevator installation according to claim 3 wherein said drive motor and said brake are mounted on a bracket fastened to said crossbeam.

6. The elevator installation according to claim 5 wherein said bracket is mounted at a center region of said crossbeam.

7. The elevator installation according to claim 5 wherein said drive pulleys are arranged substantially in a region within an enclosure of said bracket.

8. The elevator installation according to claim 1 wherein said counterweight guides and said at least one of said car guides are positioned at apices of a substantially horizontal triangle and said crossbeam is fastened at end regions to said counterweight guides and at a center region to said at least one of said car guides.

9. The elevator installation according to claim 1 wherein said car guides and counterweight guides are arranged to extend substantially vertically in the shaft and said crossbeam is arranged to extend substantially horizontally in the shaft.

10. An elevator installation having a car and a counterweight connected by a drive means and movable in a shaft comprising:

an elevator shaft;

an elevator car movable in said shaft along a pair of car guides mounted in said shaft;

a counterweight movable in said shaft along a pair of counterweight guides mounted in said shaft;

a crossbeam attached to said counterweight guides and to at least one of said car guides; and

a drive motor mounted on said crossbeam for moving said car and said counterweight in said shaft.

11. The elevator installation according to claim 10 including at least two drive means connecting said car and said counterweight, each said drive means having two ends and each of said ends being fixed to one of a wall of the shaft, a ceiling of the shaft, one of said counterweight guides, one of said car guides, said crossbeam, said counterweight and said car.

12. The elevator installation according to claim 10 including at least two drive means connecting said car and said counterweight and wherein said drive means are belts.

13. The elevator installation according to claim 10 wherein said car is suspended in said shaft with a 2:1 ratio and said drive motor is arranged in a region above a travel path of said counterweight in said shaft.

14. The elevator installation according to claim 10 wherein said car is suspended in said shaft with a 2:1 ratio and said drive motor is arranged in a region above a travel path of said car.

15. The elevator installation according to claim 10 wherein said car is suspended in said shaft with a 2:1 ratio and said drive motor is arranged in a region above a travel path of said car and a travel path of said counterweight.

16. The elevator installation according to claim 10 wherein said car is suspended in said shaft with a 1:1 ratio and said drive motor is arranged in a region above a travel path of said car.

17. A method of arranging a drive motor of a elevator installation in an elevator shaft for moving a car and a counterweight comprising the steps of:

a) providing a crossbeam and fastening the crossbeam to a pair of counterweight guides and at least one of a pair of car guides in the elevator shaft;

b) providing a drive motor and mounting the drive motor on the crossbeam; and

c) providing two drive pulleys and coupling the drive pulleys to the drive motor on opposite sides of an imaginary line horizontal connector extending between said car guides.

18. The method according to claim 17 wherein the counterweight guides and the at least one car guide are positioned at apices of a substantially horizontal triangle and said step a) is performed by fastening end regions of the crossbeam to respective ones of the counterweight guides.

19. The method according to claim 18 wherein said step a) is performed by fastening a center region of the crossbeam to the at least one car guide.

20. The method according to claim 18 wherein said step b) is performed by mounting the drive motor in the area of the triangle substantially above one of the counterweight and the car.